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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/900,335	07/05/2001	Peter Bernhard Kaars	US018099	5618

24737 7590 06/23/2006

PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS  
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EXAMINER

CHEA, PHILIP J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2153

DATE MAILED: 06/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/900,335

Applicant(s)

KAARS, PETER BERNHARD

Examiner

Philip J. Chea

Art Unit

2153

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 November 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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### DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to a Request for Continued Examination filed May 4, 2006.

Claims 1-11 are currently pending, of which claims 9-11 are new. Any rejection not set forth below has been overcome by the current Amendment.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1,2,5-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Pollack (US 6,505,236).

As per claims 1,7,8, Pollack discloses a method of controlling communication of content information from a sender to a receiver via a data network, the method comprising:

verifying if the content information is available from at least one source other than the sender (see column 6, lines 33-48);

contacting a search engine if the content information is available from the at least one source, wherein the search engine determines a location within a data network of the at least one source of the content information and returns an updatable index listing sources of a copy of the content information (see column 6, lines 43-65, where one source is found and one updateable index of the one source is returned); and

substituting for the content information a pointer to the location of the at least one source based on the updatable index of sources returned by the search engine (see column 6, lines 49-65).

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As per claim 2, Pollack further discloses the method of claim 1 being carried out on request of at least the sender or receiver (see column 6, lines 21-24).

As per claims 9-11, Pollack further discloses updating the updateable index of the search engine with information about the location of the at least one source of the content information (see column 6, lines 43-65).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pollack as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Berghel. Although Pollack disclose substantial features of the claimed invention (discussed above), he fails to directly disclose verifying the content based on a watermark. However, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pollack, as evidenced by Berghel.

In an analogous art, Berghel discloses watermarks being used as a method of authenticating a document for verification purposes (page 2, see WATERMARKS IN USE, line 1), such as claimed above.

Given the teaching of Berghel, a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pollack by employing a verification method based on watermarks, such as disclosed by Berghel, in order to guarantee authenticity, quality, ownership, and source (page 1, see Watermarking Cyberspace, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph). It would have been obvious to use the fingerprinting system taught by Berghel to verify that a particular document located at another source is the same document from the local source.

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5. Claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pollack as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Zabetian (U.S. 6,327,656).

As per claim 4, although Pollack disclose substantial features of the claimed invention (discussed above), he fails to directly disclose verifying the content based on a fingerprint of the content. However, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Pollack, as evidenced by Zabetian.

In an analogous art, Zabetian discloses a system that can receive and transmit electronic mail (column 2, lines 42-45), verifying the document is the one to be received by using a fingerprint (column 7, lines 21-29).

Given the teaching of Zabetian, a person having ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and advantages of modifying Pollack by employing a fingerprinting method, such as disclosed by Zabetian, in order to identify and distinguish the document from other documents, even one that appear to be similar from one another (column 2, lines 4-9). It would have been obvious to use the fingerprinting system taught by Zabetian to verify that a particular document located at another source is the same document from the local source.

As per claim 5, Pollack in view of Zabetian further disclose the communication being carried out depending on the sender being authorized to communicate the content information (see Zabetian column 6, lines 37-53).

As per claim 6, Pollack in view of Zabetian further disclose the communication being carried out depending on the receiver being authorized to receive the content (see Zabetian column 11, lines 17-43).

### ***Response to Arguments***

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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**Conclusion**

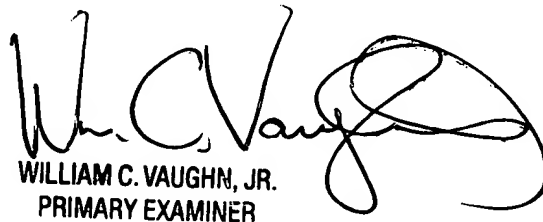
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Philip J. Chea whose telephone number is 571-272-3951. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00-4:30 (1st Friday Off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Burgess can be reached on 571-272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Philip J Chea  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2153

PJC 6/6/06

  
WILLIAM C. VAUGHN, JR.  
PRIMARY EXAMINER